



Department of Justice

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**FRANKLIN COUNTY MAN SENTENCED ON FEDERAL
CHILD PORNOGRAPHY CHARGES**

St. Louis, MO: Eric Dean Schnakenberg was sentenced to 36 months in prison, followed by 20 years of supervised release, for possession of child pornography, United States Attorney Catherine L. Hanaway of the Eastern District of Missouri announced today.

On July 12, 2007, employees of Ingram Seating in Pacific, Missouri, discovered images of minors engaged in sexually explicit conduct on a laptop computer assigned to Schnakenberg, who was the IT Manager for Ingram. The Pacific Police Department was contacted and the laptop computer was turned over to a Pacific detective. In addition to the laptop computer, the detective later seized a Hewlett Packard desktop computer that had been assigned to Schnakenberg while he was employed at Ingram.

On August 10, 2007, a federal search warrant was executed at Schnakenberg's Washington, MO residence. Among the items seized were two additional computers, including an IBM personal computer and another laptop. Schnakenberg admitted with his plea in February that he had downloaded and viewed child pornography images and movies on his work laptop and desktop computers via the internet. He stated he also downloaded and viewed child pornography on his personal desktop computer at his residence. Some of the images possessed by Schnakenberg involve minors under the age of 12. The total number of images possessed by Schnakenberg is more than 150 images.

Schnakenberg, 37, Washington, MO, pled guilty last February to one felony count of possession of child pornography, and appeared today for sentencing before United States District Judge Charles A. Shaw in St. Louis.

This case was brought as part of Project Safe Childhood. In February 2006, the Department of Justice launched Project Safe Childhood, a nationwide initiative designed to protect children from online exploitation and abuse. Led by the United States Attorneys' Offices, Project Safe Childhood marshals federal, state and local resources to better locate, apprehend, and prosecute individuals who exploit children via the Internet, as well as identify and rescue victims. For more information about Project Safe Childhood, please visit www.projectsafchildhood.gov/.